

# North Carolina National Guard Media Advisory

**For additional information contact:**

Major Matt Handley  
North Carolina National Guard  
Office of Public Affairs  
4105 Reedy Creek Road  
Raleigh, NC 27607-6410  
(919) 664-6242

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**TO:** News Directors, Editors

**FROM:** Major Matt Handley  
Public Affairs Officer

**DATE:** March 31, 2008

**RE:** Funeral Services for North Carolina Army National Guard Soldier  
Killed in Iraq Set for Tuesday

Funeral services for Sgt. Thomas C. Ray, who was killed in action in Iraq a week and half ago, will be held on Tuesday, Apr. 1, at 10 a.m. at West Funeral Home, 17 Merrimon Avenue in Weaverville North Carolina.

After the funeral service, Ray will be buried with full military honors at the Western NC State Veterans Cemetery 962 Old US 70 Highway Black Mountain North Carolina.

Ray, age 40, of Weaverville, N.C., died on Saturday, March 22, by an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated during his patrol north of Baghdad. He was a military police Soldier assigned to 1132<sup>nd</sup> Military Police Company headquartered in Rocky Mount conducting operations near Baghdad.

**NOTE TO EDITORS:** The family has requested that no media representatives be present inside West Funeral Home during the funeral services and maintain respectful distances at all times during the days events. Any media seeking to cover the funeral may do so outside the funeral home and should check in with the N.C. National Guard Public Affairs Officer on site for current ground rules. Local NCNG PAO contact numbers are 919-612-5061 and 919-612-5421.